

Amendments to the Specification

The Office Action requests the use of trademark terms to be capitalized and be accompanied by the generic terminology (See Office Action, Page 2). The following section presents the requested amendments. No new matter has been introduced.

Please replace paragraph [0002] with the following amended paragraph:

[0002] Various methods of maintaining computer networks exist. Sun Microsystems' JINITM JiniTM network technology is an example of one such method. JINITM JiniTM is a trademark of Sun Microsystems Inc. of Palo Alto, California. JINITM Jini network technology provides simple mechanisms that enable devices to plug together to form a network. Each device provides services that other devices in the network may use. These devices provide their own interfaces, which ensures reliability and compatibility.

Please replace paragraph [0003] with the following amended paragraph:

[0003] JINITM Jini technology uses a lookup service with which devices and services register. When a device plugs in, it goes through an add-in protocol, called discovery and join-in. The device first locates the lookup service

Please replace paragraph [0005] with the following amended paragraph:

[0005] As mentioned above, discovery and join are the processes for adding a service to a system using a lookup service such as JINITM Jini. Figure 1 is a block diagram illustrating standard discovery, registration or join, look-up, and service invocation processes for a system utilizing a lookup service. A service provider 110 is the originator of the service such as a device or software. First, the service provider 110 locates a lookup service 100 by multicasting a request

125. The lookup service 100 responds to the request 125, thereby identifying itself to the service provider 110.

Please replace paragraph [0006] with the following amended paragraph:

[0006] After a lookup service 100 has been located, a service object 130 for the service 110 is loaded into the lookup service 100. This service object 130 contains a public interface for the service 110 including the methods that users and applications will invoke to execute the service 110, along with any other descriptive attributes 135. In the JINI™ Jini network technology, these public interfaces are JAVA™ Java™ programming language based objects, JAVA™ Java is a Trademark of Sun Microsystems Inc. of Palo Alto, California.

Please replace paragraph [0007] with the following amended paragraph:

[0007] A client 105 locates an appropriate service object 130 within a lookup service 100 by searching for the particular type of service. That is, the client 105 searches the lookup service 100 for a particular service 110 identified by its interface or service object 130 written in the JAVA™ Java-programming language, along with descriptive service attributes 135 that are used in a user interface. The service object 130 is loaded 120 into the client 105. The final stage is for the client 105 to invoke the service 110.

Please replace paragraph [0017] with the following amended paragraph:

[0017] According to one embodiment of the present invention, software resides on the NAS device itself to automatically look for a JINI™ Jini lookup service within a specific NAS device domain. Once found, the NAS device registers itself as a NAS device with the JINI™ Jini lookup service. This allows any client software looking for a registration of this type to dynamically see

the addition of the storage device. If the NAS device is removed from the network, the NAS service JINITM Jini; lease will expire and all interested parties will be notified of the removal, thus providing the dynamic NAS device removal capability.

Please replace paragraph [0022] with the following amended paragraph:

[0022] Importantly, while embodiments of the present invention will be described with reference to Sun Microsystems JINITM Jini network technology, the method and apparatus described herein are equally applicable to other network technologies that provide a network based directory look-up service.

Please replace paragraph [0028] with the following amended paragraph:

[0028] The interface 310 is a set of functions that other devices can use. These functions are very generic and may include functions such as create disk, create file system, delete disk, delete file system, add share, etc. According to one embodiment of the present invention, these functions consist of JAVATM Java code implemented for a specific device. Advantageously, the Application Program Interface (API) calls to the interface are the same for all devices, regardless of type. Details of processing are hidden from user and performed automatically on the storage device. Therefore, the user need not be concerned about the type of device being used.